

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
136 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor, Health
Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairman Blount, Ranking Member Murray,
Chairwoman Lowey, Ranking Member Granger, Chairwoman DeLauro, and Ranking Member
Cole,

Thank you for your commitment to the American people during these uncertain times dealing
with 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). As you craft additional supplemental appropriations
legislation, we urge you to consider \$1.4 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Program (LIHEAP).

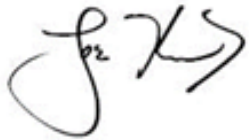
LIHEAP provides critical financial assistance to low-income families in order to heat or cool
their homes during times of extreme weather. With millions of Americans now under quarantine,
self-isolation, closed schools, and in certain areas mandated shelter-in-place orders, many are
facing an uncertain financial future. According to the National Energy and Utility Affordability
Coalition (NEUAC), the \$1.4 billion request would assist up to 4 million more households
nationally with new or additional assistance. Although we are approaching spring, New England
experienced snow just this week. Additional funding will ensure these families can remain safely

in their homes and practice the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control such as stay-at-home and social distancing.

Additionally, we urge you to ensure this funding is spread equitably across the country. Last year's Fiscal Year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill included language that would hold states harmless from a negative impact due to the LIHEAP funding formula. Any additional funding provided should remain available to all states subject to those same requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JP Kennedy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress

**Due to telework procedures advised by the Attending Physician and House Administration Committee, we were unable to acquire physical signatures from other members of Congress. However, the following members indicated their request to sign this letter.

Senator Elizabeth Warren
Senator Edward J. Markey
Rep. Richard E. Neal
Rep. James P. McGovern
Rep. Lori Trahan
Rep. Katherine Clark
Rep. Seth Moulton
Rep. Ayanna Pressley
Rep. Stephen F. Lynch
Rep. William R. Keating